

1 public, but to our children and other future
2 generations who will look at what is being done here
3 with either pride or further cynicism about the
4 integrity and credibility of adults, this Commission,
5 and our government.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Tom Grey.

8 MR. GREY: Chairperson James and members
9 of the Commission, I want to properly introduce our
10 movement. It really is a citizens' campaign, not a
11 religious crusade. It bridges Ralph Reed -- I've got
12 my left hand, but that's okay. He won't mind -- and
13 Ralph Nader on the right and left. You can sit the
14 rest of American between the two Ralphs. This is not
15 ideological. It has to do with citizens that found
16 themselves under attack from gambling.

17 Our hopes for you as a Commission is we
18 really look at you as our Commission. There were
19 6,000 bills that went before the 104th Congress. Only
20 200 passed, and we're happy that you're here and that
21 you're going to listen in public.

22 It's been gratifying to hear the emphasis

1 that the Chairperson has put on public comment and
2 public opinion and wanting to hear, making a Web site
3 available for the information, extremely important.

4 What we have here is strictly a product
5 liability case. I'm going to be a little bit
6 irreverent. This is the product, and it's called
7 gaming. They drop the letters B and L out. It used
8 to be called gambling. It's called gaming. It says
9 economic development, jobs, job, jobs, painless
10 revenue stream, taxes only from the willing, and then
11 entertainment like shopping and the movies.

12 What I say is let the Commission hearings
13 begin. We used to play a game in the Army called
14 showdown. We can go seven cards here. Let's put the
15 deck out. Let's get this Commission moving. Come on.
16 Agree with one another. Work on it. You can
17 showcase, and we can put in our arguments against.

18 What you're going to find, well, I've got
19 the B. Let's go bankruptcies, addictions, crime and
20 corruption, debt, embezzlement, fraud, and underlying
21 it all is greed. What's theirs is theirs and what's
22 ours was always negotiable. We found that at the

1 local level, the state level. We're happy that you as
2 a Commission will study the money and the muscle and
3 the pressure we have felt as citizens.

4 We look forward to working with you.
5 Thanks for being here.

6 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Barbara -- and please
7 help me with the correct pronunciation. Is it
8 Knickelbein.

9 MS. KNICKELBEIN: Knickelbein.

10 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Knickelbein.

11 MS. KNICKELBEIN: Good afternoon,
12 distinguished members of the Commission. My name is
13 Barbara Knickelbein. I'm the Maryland State
14 Coordinator for NCAGE and the chair of the Church and
15 Society Commission of the Glen Burnie United Methodist
16 Church.

17 I've come before you today to voice my
18 deep concern as an American about the rapid expansion
19 of gambling in this country in the last few years and
20 its negative economic and social impact on society.

21 Attached to my written statement is a
22 letter to the editor I had published recently in the